

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION — PART 1
(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

B-3915

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application has been received (IRL 54-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year and may be sent separately, or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY Ridgely's Delight Phase I
Address of property: Street 630, 634, 636, 637, 640, 641, 646, 662, 712 Portland Street
City Baltimore County _____ State Maryland Zip Code 21230
Name of historic district in which property is located Ridgely's Delight has state & city status and is asking for inclusion on Federal Register.
2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:
(See instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary.)

See attachment #1

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(Use reverse side if necessary.)

See attachment #2

Date of construction (if known) Mid 19th cen- ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known) _____
tury

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name AMCAP, Inc.
Street 501 Madison Ave - Suite 1105
City New York State NY Zip Code 1002
Telephone Number (during day) Area Code 212-753-9696

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge correct and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature [Signature] Date 7/2/80

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic District and ☐ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).The structure is located in a district which ☒ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) ☒ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60); and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of a district.Signature [Signature] Date 8-22-80
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and is subject to depreciation under section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure.☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.Signature _____ Date _____
Member of the National Register

ATTACHMENT #1DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The project consists of (7) properties (630, 634, 636, 640, 646, 662, and 712) on North Portland Street and (2) properties (637, and 641) on South Portland Street in Ridgely's Delight. Ridgely's Delight is recognized as an historic district by the city of Baltimore and state of Maryland. Federal designation has been applied for. The following is a brief description of each house:

630 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three stories

Construction: Brick masonry with framing running front to back.

Additions: Two story rear addition was removed in 1979 after it had collapsed.

Interior
features &

spaces: 1st floor - (2) rooms deep with a corridor along one wall. 2nd & 3rd floor - (1) room in front & (1) room in back with stairs between the two.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

634 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with framing running front to back.

Additions: An original two story addition plus a one story concrete block shed added later.

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house - two rooms deep with a corridor down one side. Rooms front and back on 2nd & 3rd floor separated by a stair. Rear additions, bath-rooms, and kitchen.

636 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing.

Additions: Rear (1) story brick masonry addition.

ATTACHMENT #1 (continued)

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house - two rooms deep with a corridor down one side. Stair to 2nd floor behind second room. 2nd & 3rd floor rooms front & back separated by a stair. (1) story addition was kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

637 S. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing.

Additions: (1) story asphalt shingle.

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house - two rooms deep with a corridor down one side and a more generous stair to 2nd floor. 2nd & 3rd floor have rooms front & back with a stair between. Rear two-story portion housed baths and kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

640 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing.

Additions: -

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide - two rooms deep with a stair to 2nd floor along one side. 2nd & 3rd floors have rooms front & back with stair between. Rear two-story portion housed baths & kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

641 S. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear

Construction: Brick masonry with front to back framing

Additions: (1) story asphalt shingle

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide two rooms deep with a corridor down one side and a generous stair to 2nd & 3rd floors. 2nd & 3rd floors have rooms front and back. Rear two story portion housed baths and kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

646 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with formstone applied to facade.

Additions: One-story wood with asphalt shingles.

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide house two rooms deep with a stair behind 2nd room to 2nd and 3rd floor. Front and back rooms. Baths & kitchen in two-story portion.

662 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with one story in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry with fromstone applied to facade. Front to back framing.

Additions: One-story brick masonry..

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide - two rooms deep with a stair to 2nd floor along one side. 2nd & 3rd floor have rooms front & back separated by a stair. Rear one-story portion housed kitchen.

Fireplace: (1) front and (1) rear.

712 N. Portland Street

Stories: Three with two in rear.

Construction: Brick masonry.

Additions: -

Interior
features &

spaces: 14'-6" wide - two rooms deep with corridor down one side and a generous stair to 2nd & 3rd floors. 2nd & 3rd floors have rooms front and back. Baths & kitchen in rear two-story portion.

ATTACHMENT #2STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The houses at 630, 634, 636, 637, 640, 641, 646, 662, and 712 Portland Street are all included in the pie-shaped neighborhood of Ridgely's Delight. The neighborhood has been approved for city and state historic designation and is in the process of applying for National Historic designation. "The charming name is derived from a plantation owned by Charles Ridgely. Ridgely acquired the estate as dowry from his wife, Rebecca, the daughter of General John Eager Howard. Ridgely combined that property with another in 1732, known as Brotherly Love, and named it Ridgely's Delight." Since its beginnings, Ridgely's Delight has enjoyed a colorful history. Legends abound about its past, including one that George Washington stopped at one of the homes to rest while nursing an injured arm.

"As the community developed, the gradual change in architectural style of the houses reflected the change in the economic status of its residents."

"In the early 19th century the small, cozy Federal-style houses were inhabited by the poorer crafts people, the first settlers." The nine (9) houses on Portland Street fall into this category. "Later on, in the latter part of the century when the affluent professionals moved in, the architecture gradually transformed to ornate Italianate rowhouses. In any case, attempts were made to retain an harmonious atmosphere."

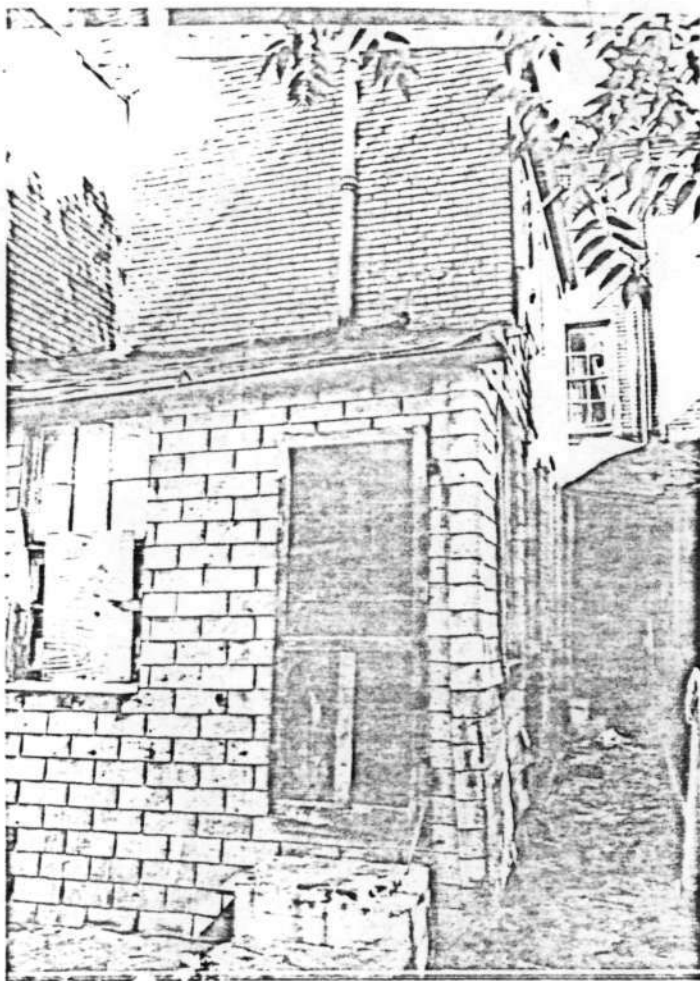
"For the most part, the two or two-and-a-half story Federal houses appear mainly on the smaller streets (Portland Street) and alleys and the Italianate style is more coomonly seen on major streets."

In 1973 the Ridgely's Delight Association was formed to save the Babe Ruth House at 216 Emory Street, which is across the five (5) foot alley from 630 Portland Street.

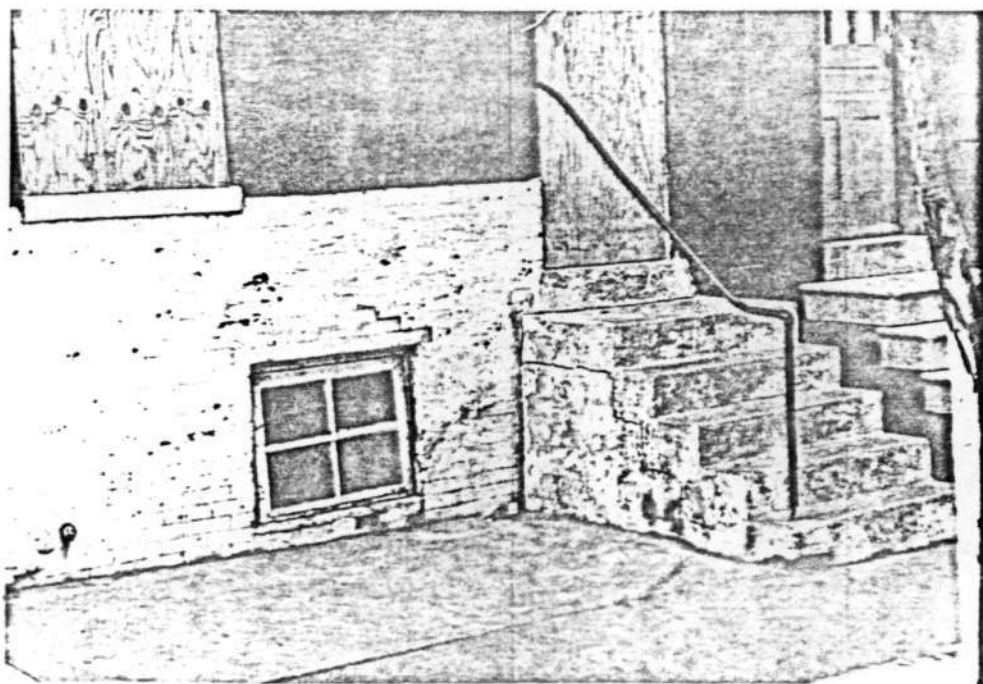
We feel that all nine (9) houses are representative of those houses built by the first settlers and crafts people. They form a part of a very pleasant 19th century streetscape. Simple brick facades, wood or brick lintels, wood steps, 6 over 6 windows, coal scuttles, basement access doors, chimneys, and simple brick cornices characterize these small homes of some of Baltimore's first settlers.



24. 637 S. PORTLAND



25.



26.

B-3915
637 Portland Street
Block 685A Lot 054
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad.

